

LABOUR LAW SEMINAR

Employee Majority Bargaining Systems: Comparing Developments in the United States and Australia

One of the key planks of the ALP's election policy was the introduction of a system of employee majority bargaining at workplaces. The ACTU has adopted a similar policy stance. This seminar will provide an insight into the experience of employee majority bargaining in the United States under the *National Labor Relations Act*. In particular, the seminar will focus on the proposed *Employee Free Choice Act* (EFCA), which has been introduced to overcome some of the weaknesses of the US system. Among other things, the EFCA would replace secret ballots with a public 'Card Check' system for determining whether the majority of workers want to be represented by a union. The draft Act builds on unions' "bargaining to organize" campaigns of recent years, and would significantly re-shape the US election-based regulatory landscape. This seminar will explore the implications of the EFCA for workers' rights to organise and to engage in collective bargaining.

Professor James J Brudney is the Newton D Baker-Baker & Hostetler Chair in Law at the Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. Professor Brudney has served as Chief Counsel and Staff Director of the Senate Subcommittee on Labor. He has also been Adjunct Professor of Law at the Georgetown Law Center. In 2000, he received a Fulbright Distinguished Scholar Award for research and lecturing at Oxford University.

DATE: Monday, 16 June 2008
TIME: 1:00 pm
PLACE: Room G27 (Ground Floor)
Melbourne Law School
RSVP: Charlotte Morgans
Tel: (03) 8344 8924
RSVP Online: <http://celrl.law.unimelb.edu.au/>
A light lunch will be served